Setting up a National Institute for Sugar Technology

7651. SHRI K. R. JAYADEVAPPA: will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government for setting up another National Institute for Sugar Technology, as there is already one such Institute at Kanpur; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider the request of Karnataka Government in setting up the similar Institute at Mandya in Karnataka, where sugarcane is the major product?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Apart from the already established National Sugar Institute at Kanpur, a National Institute of Sugarcane and Sugar Technology is presently under consctruction at Mau in U.P..

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Sugar Mills in Gujarat

7652. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills set up in Gujarat State at present:

(b) whether Government have any proposal to promote cooperative sugar mills in the State:

(c) if so, the number of sugar mills proposed to be set up in the State during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan on cooperative basis; and

(d) thhe details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) As on 31-1-95, there were 18 installed sugar factories in the State of Gujarat.

(b) to (d) As on 31.1.95, no proposals for the setting up of a new sugar mill in the State of Gujarat was pending consideration in the Ministry of Food. The number of new licences to be issued for setting up of new sugar factories during the current plan period would depend upon various factors, like balance capacity available for licensing, availability of sugarcane/potential for development of sugarcane, financial viability of the projects, etc.

Buffer Stocks of Foodgrains

7653. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the national requirements of buffer food stocks;

(b) if so, what quantities of foodgrains must be stored as buffer stocks; and

(c) details of buffer stocks being held?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Buffer stocking Policy is an important plank of the National Food Policy. The minimum levels of stocks to be maintained in the central pool on different dates during 8th Five Year Plan are as under:—

(Qty. in Million Tonnes)

Date	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st. April	10.8	3.7	14.5
1st. July	9.2	13.1	22.3
1st. Oct.	6 0	10 6	16 6
1st. Jan.	7.7	7.7	15.4